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For Immediate Release May 5, 2004

Sen. Bishop to offer National Day of Prayer resolution

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LANSING — In honor of the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, Sen. Mike Bishop, R-Rochester will offer a resolution to observe the day in Michigan.

The resolution would recognize May 6, 2004, as the National Day of Prayer in Michigan. It would encourage people of all faiths to pray in their own manner and seek blessings for their families and government leaders, and for personal renewal and a spirit of harmony across the country.

"On this day, we gather together people of all faiths and backgrounds in a unity of the human spirit," Bishop said. "This unity is what accomplishes great things."

The resolution details the history of the National Day of Prayer, noting how President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a day of "humiliation, fasting and prayer" in 1863. It quotes the former president as saying, "I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for the day."

President Harry Truman signed the law that created the National Day of Prayer in 1952. The day is set as the first Thursday in May.